

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.. An electronic apparatus with a fuel cell capable of generating power by chemical reaction and a chargeable/dischargeable secondary battery, comprising:

5           a determining unit to determine whether a capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than a first value when a power supply of the electronic apparatus turns off; and

10          a controlling unit to cause the secondary battery to be charged when the determining unit determines that the capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than the first value.

15          2. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling unit stops charging the secondary battery when a specific instruction is issued while the secondary battery is being charged.

20          3. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling unit stops charging the secondary battery and turns on the power supply of the electronic apparatus if a specific instruction is issued while the secondary battery is being charged.

25          4. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling unit stops charging the secondary battery when a predetermined period of time elapses after the secondary battery starts to be charged.

5. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the controlling unit stops charging the secondary battery when the capacity of the secondary battery exceeds a second value after the secondary battery starts to be charged.

5       6. A method of controlling an operation of an electronic apparatus with a fuel cell capable of generating power by chemical reaction and a chargeable/dischargeable secondary battery, the method comprising:

10       determining whether a capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than a first value when a power supply of the electronic apparatus turns off; and  
            charging the secondary battery when the determination indicates that the capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than the first value.

15       7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising stopping charging the secondary battery when a specific instruction is issued while the secondary battery is being charged.

20       8. The method according to claim 6, further comprising stopping charging the secondary battery and turning on the power supply of the electronic apparatus if a specific instruction is issued while the secondary battery is being charged.

25       9. The method according to claim 6, further comprising stopping charging the secondary battery when a predetermined period of time elapses after

the secondary battery starts to be charged.

10. The method according to claim 6, further comprising stopping charging the secondary battery when the capacity of the secondary battery exceeds a second value after the secondary battery starts to be charged.

5 11. An electronic system, comprising:

a fuel cell unit which has a fuel cell capable of generating power by chemical reaction and a repeatedly chargeable/dischargeable secondary battery; and

10 an electronic apparatus operable using the fuel cell unit,

the electronic apparatus comprising,

15 a determining unit to determine whether a capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than a first value when a power supply of the electronic apparatus turns off, and

20 a controlling unit to give an instruction to charge the secondary battery when the determining unit determines that the capacity of the secondary battery is smaller than the first value,

the cell unit comprising,

a charging control unit to charge the secondary battery using power generated by the fuel cell in response to the instruction.

25 12. The electronic system according to claim 11, wherein the charging control unit stops charging the secondary battery and the controlling unit turns on the

power supply of the electronic apparatus if a specific instruction is issued while the secondary battery is being charged.

13. The electronic system according to claim 11,  
5 wherein the charging control unit stops charging the secondary battery when a predetermined period of time elapses after the secondary battery starts to be charged.

14. The electronic system according to claim 11,  
10 wherein the charging control unit stops charging the secondary battery when the capacity of the secondary battery exceeds a second value after the secondary battery starts to be charged.